

may not have had the pleasure of knowing him will benefit for years to come because of the extra first response vehicles that he helped secure for the Fire Department and the drivers education cars that he worked to provide for the local schools.

All these amazing things that Chief Bill John Baker had a hand in, ultimately help raise awareness of the Cherokee people and their presence in Northeastern Oklahoma. I congratulate Chief Baker on his retirement, as it is well deserved.

#### REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF HENRY P. "CORKY" ANDERSON III

#### HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Henry P. "Corky" Anderson III who passed away on February 23, 2019 at the age of 76. A lifelong Tulare County resident, Corky, as he was affectionately known, was a renowned trailblazer in the pistachio industry.

Corky's passion for farming began at age 13 when he spent his days hauling hay for nearby farms, and as the years went on he mastered his craft while working up and down the Pacific coast throughout California and Oregon. Corky was also a problem solver. The California pistachio industry has historically suffered due to a soil-borne fungus known as verticillium wilt that kills thousands of trees each year before they are mature enough for commercial production. Along with his business partner Ken Puryear, Corky developed a pistachio rootstock resistant to verticillium wilt. This development was nothing short of revolutionary, and California's current status as the largest pistachio producer in the world can largely be attributed to his hard work.

But Corky was involved in much more than just pistachios. Ever the family man, he, along with his brother Doug Anderson and sister Debi Mitchell, founded AMA Pistachio Farming and AMA Properties where they grew everything from sugarbeets to cotton, invested in a gold mine in Oregon, and diversified into office building in Las Vegas and Arizona.

Corky is survived by his wife of 30 years, Betty Jean Anderson, and an entire family that loved him dearly. He will be remembered for his kindness, love of life, and passion for farming. I was fortunate enough to have known Corky for many years. He was an exceptional farmer and an even better friend. On behalf of California's 23rd Congressional District, I extend my deepest condolences to the Anderson family, and all of those whose lives Corky touched.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS VACANCY REDUCTION ACT

#### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Courts Va-

cancy Reduction Act. This bill would allow local District of Columbia court nominees to be seated after a 30-day congressional review period unless a resolution of disapproval is enacted into law during that period. Currently, nominees cannot be seated without affirmative Senate approval. The congressional review process for nominees would be the same one used for legislation passed by the D.C. Council. It is therefore a reliable process, long-recognized by Congress. My bill is prompted by the unique requirement that judges for the local D.C. courts be confirmed by the Senate, where nominees for the federal courts, understandably, get the primary focus and priority. There is currently a vacancy crisis facing the District's criminal and civil courts, and the D.C. courts have raised serious concerns due to longstanding vacancies.

Whether Democrats or Republicans control the Senate, the local D.C. courts regularly face vacancy crises, which harm the operations of the judicial system in the District. Congress created the D.C. Judicial Nomination Commission (JNC) to recommend candidates, and Congress should generally defer to its judgment. This bill is a compromise, useful to all concerned, that retains a congressional role while saving the Senate time by removing the need for committee and floor action and increasing the odds that D.C. will have a full complement of local judges.

Currently, there are seven vacancies out of 62 authorized judges on the D.C. Superior Court and two vacancies out of nine authorized judges on the D.C. Court of Appeals.

Both pre- and post-home rule, the District has never had control over the nomination and approval of local D.C. judges. My bill would not alter the role of the JNC or the President in the nomination process. Under the Home Rule Act, the JNC recommends to the President a list of three persons for each vacancy on the Superior Court and Court of Appeals. The President must nominate a candidate recommended by the JNC within 60 days to the Senate for advice and consent. If the President fails to nominate such a person within 60 days, the JNC must nominate a recommended person directly to the Senate for advice and consent. The Senate has no obligation to provide its advice and consent. Under this bill, once a name has been transmitted to Congress, the nomination would be deemed approved unless a resolution of disapproval is enacted into law during a 30-legislative-day review period.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

#### RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF RICHARD WADE

#### HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to salute, honor and thank World War II veteran Richard Wade.

On February 5, 1924 Richard Wade, Jr. was born on an icy cold day to Richard and Mary Frances Wade. When he was only five weeks old, Richard's grandparents, David Kearney, an Irish immigrant, and his wife, Illa, began to raise him. Richard spent his childhood and teen years in Portland, Maine.

In January of 1942, Richard enlisted in the United States Navy. He trained in aviation radio at Naval Air Station Banana River, now called Patrick Air Force Base. He worked convoy coverage and submarine patrol and was a part of the Helicopter Development Squadron. While in service, he traveled to Brazil where he was stationed for three and a half months. Other assignments in Brazil took him to Aratu and Natal. In Natal, Richard worked the radio one night for so long that he became deaf and did not regain his hearing for two days. Richard received the American Theater Ribbon, World War II Victory Medal and Combat Air crewman Insignia.

While stationed in Corpus Christi, Texas, Richard received the news that the war had ended. He remembers the historic occasion and celebrating with his buddies. Richard worked for thirty years at Missouri Pacific Railroad as a truck driver. He retired and settled in Rye, Texas, and currently resides in Livingston, Texas.

We thank Richard Wade for responding to the call to protect and defend this great nation. His sacrifices exemplify why our nation remains "the land of the free and the home of the brave."

#### REMEMBERING THE LATE U.S. ARMY CAPTAIN ANTOINE LEWIS

#### HON. ROBIN L. KELLY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise to remember the late U.S. Army Captain Antoine Lewis of Matteson, IL in the Second Congressional District.

I was shocked and saddened to learn that Captain Lewis was among the 157 people killed in the tragic plane crash in Ethiopia on March 10th.

This incredible young man had so much more to give the world and constantly gave of himself to others. He possessed an irrepressible curiosity and a desire to make the world a better place.

Captain Lewis was a man of passionate commitment to his family, to the Matteson community, to our country, and to his faith.

An honorable man, he represented the very best of America whenever he served in uniform or wherever he traveled in the world.

Captain Lewis was a patriot who proudly served his country. He had been stationed in Afghanistan, South Korea and Canada. He had an adventuresome and free spirit and was filled with wonder and curiosity about other people and cultures.

While he was raised in Matteson, he belonged to the world.

He, like many others, went to Africa to offer hope and opportunity to others through mission work. As called to do by St. James, he put his faith into actions and deeds that uplifted others and worked to build a better world.

The entire Second District mourn this tremendous loss to our community.

As we grieve with his family and friends, we are comforted by the knowledge that he did fulfill his desire to make the world a better place—by the love he gave to every person and mission that he encountered.